

In the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating biometric security in a smartcard transaction system, said method comprising:
 - determining if a transaction violates at least two ~~an~~ established rule rules;
 - notifying a user to proffer a biometric sample to verify ~~the~~ an identity of said user;
 - detecting a proffered biometric at a sensor communicating with said system to obtain a proffered biometric sample;
 - verifying ~~the~~ said proffered biometric sample; and
 - authorizing said transaction ~~that violates an established rule~~ to proceed upon verification of ~~the~~ said proffered biometric sample.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of determining if a said transaction violates ~~an~~ said at least two established rule rules includes determining if said transaction is at least ~~one~~ two of a purchase exceeding an established per purchase spending limit, a purchase exceeding a preset number of transactions, any portion of a purchase using non-monetary funds, and a purchase exceeding an established limit.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of notifying includes providing notification by at least one of an audible signal, a visual signal, an optical signal, a mechanical signal, a vibration, blinking, signaling, beeping, providing an olfactory signal, providing a physical touch signal, and providing a temperature signal to said user.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of detecting further includes detecting a said proffered biometric at a said sensor ~~configured to communicate~~ communicating with said system via at least one of a smartcard, a reader, and a network.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of detecting includes at least one of: detecting, storing, and processing a said proffered biometric sample.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of detecting includes receiving a finite number of proffered biometric samples during a said transaction.
7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of detecting includes logging each said proffered biometric sample.
8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of detecting includes at least one of detecting, processing and storing ~~at least one~~ a second proffered biometric sample.
9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of verifying includes comparing a said proffered biometric sample with a stored biometric sample.
10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein comparing a said proffered biometric sample with a said stored biometric sample includes comparing a said proffered biometric sample with a biometric sample of at least one of a criminal, a terrorist, and a cardmember.
11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1; wherein said step of verifying includes verifying a said proffered biometric sample using information contained on at least one of a local database, a remote database, and a third-party controlled database.
12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of verifying includes verifying a said proffered biometric sample using one of a local CPU and a third-party security vendor.
13. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of detecting said proffered biometric at said biometric sensor includes detecting said proffered biometric at at least one of: a retinal scan sensor, an iris scan sensor, a fingerprint sensor, a hand print sensor, a hand geometry sensor, a voice print sensor, a vascular sensor, a facial sensor, an ear sensor, a signature sensor, a keystroke sensor, an olfactory sensor, an auditory emissions sensor, and a DNA sensor.
14. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising a step of requiring submission of a personal identification number at said biometric sensor after said step of verifying said proffered biometric sample and before said step of authorizing said transaction to proceed.

15. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising facilitating a selection of an account from at least two accounts to facilitate said step of authorizing said transaction.